Lamprey WMPAAC Annual Report November 2008

Presented to His Excellency, Governor John H. Lynch
NH Senate President, Sylvia Larsen
Speaker of the NH House of Representatives, Terie Norelli
Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services, Thomas S. Burack
and the State Library

November 1, 2008

by the Lamprey River Water Management Planning Area Advisory Committee

In compliance with Laws of 2002, Chapter 278, the Lamprey River Water Management Area Advisory Committee is pleased to submit this annual report of the committee's findings and activities for 2008. This law defines the two committees for each river under the pilot program to advise the Instream Flow process—the Technical Review Committee (TRC) and the Water Management Area Advisory Committee (WMPAAC). According to Chapter 278, "Each Water Management Planning Area Advisory Committee shall make an interim report regarding its progress and findings on or before November 1 of each year of their existence to the Senate President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Governor, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services, and the State Library."

NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) maintains a website for the Lamprey WMPAAC at

http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/rivers/instream/lamprey/wmpa.htm. The website contains the minutes, agendas, and copies of all presentations and documents distributed at the WMPAAC meetings. UNH has a Lamprey Instream Flow Project website at http://www.unh.edu/erg/lamprey/.

The Lamprey River Instream Flow Pilot Program began July 2005. The Lamprey WMPAAC did not meet between November 2007 through October 2008 because their responsibility under this part of the pilot program, namely to develop and review the list of protected entities existing on the Lamprey River, was accomplished in November 2006. During the year they were kept up to date on the results of technical issues largely via the Technical Review Committee meetings. The WMPAAC will become more directly involved in the Water Management Plan (WMP) process next year.

Several members attended the June 9, 2008 and October 23, 2008 Technical Review Committee meetings reviewing the draft Proposed Lamprey Protected Instream Flow Report. The Technical Review Committee is expecting to complete its review by November 2008 and a Lamprey WMPAAC meeting to formally lay out the report to the committee is planned to follow. The Lamprey WMPAAC will be asked to assist in the public hearing for the final Proposed Protected Instream Flow Report planed for January 2009. During the Water Management Plan process they will evaluate the appropriateness for affected parties of the proposed alternatives for meeting the protected flows.

During the Water Management Plan development the Committee will evaluate the components of the plan for each Affected Dam Owner and Affected Water User. Each Affected Dam Owner and Affected Water User will have a plan tailored to their situation. The Department's Instream Flow consultants will be using a method for evaluating the plan components called Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) to determine the plan components that are most effective and

most amenable to the Affected Dam Owners and Affected Water Users. The committee will review the selected alternatives in the draft Water Management Plan to ensure all the affected parties have appropriate levels of effort in meeting the protected flows.

Committee Changes

There were no committee changes since last year's report.

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